GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5125
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2002
LICENCE TO IMPORT MARBLE AND DOLOMITE
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Government of Rajasthan to reconsider the decision about allowing import of marble and dolomite as building material for personal use only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided in principle to issue import licences for dolomite and marble only to those persons who want to import for personal use only and not for sale in open market; and

(d) if so, the time by which this specific provision would be made effective so that `imported marble and dolomite will not be sold in the open market` thus restricting its commercial trade?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : From 1.4.99 to 31.3.2001, import of Rough Marble Blocks / Slabs was permissible on surrender ofSILand no specific import licence was required from DGFT.As the SIL scheme wasabolished with effect from 1.4.2001, import of these items was placed under the restricted category i.e. import can be allowed only against a licence to be issued by the DGFT and in this connection it was decided to formulate suitable guidelines. The draft guidelines were sent to Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Mines and Government of Rajasthan, Ministry of Mines & DIPP conveyed their concurrence to the draft guidelines but the Government of Rajasthan opposed issuanace of any licence for rough marble blocks / slabs. However, as it is not possible to prohibit the issuance of licences in respect of items which fall under restricted category, these guidelines were issued vide Policy Circular No. 29 dated 14.3.2002. It may further be stated that import of dolomite and finished marble is free and no licence from DGFT is required for this purpose.